



# DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Dale J Schmidt** Sheriff **Scott Mittelstadt** Chief Deputy

## Unsecured Loads Lead to Dangerous Roads

Many of us have had the experience of following another driver who has a load that is not secure. Sometimes drivers over extend their capabilities and end up overloading their vehicles or trailers.

With this topic I hope to help everyone understand what the law says regarding how to safely transport loads on our roadways. Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 348 covers Vehicles-Size, Weight and Load rules. Section 348.10 is where we find the special limitations on loads.

- 348.10 (2) No Person shall operate a vehicle on a highway unless such vehicle is so constructed and loaded as to prevent its contents from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping therefrom.

Violation of this statute could result in a citation total of \$200.50. Some great tips to follow in order to make sure your load is secure are;

- Make sure the load is tied down with rope, netting or straps
- Your load should be tied directly to the vehicle or trailer
- Cover the load with sturdy tarp or netting
- Do not overload
- Pack the lighter weight items at the bottom.
- Distributing your load evenly will help prevent it from sliding around.
- Make sure the loaded vehicle or trailer is properly maintained

This is one of the ways we can all work together to help keep our roadways safe for our families.

Captain Chad Enright